

MAGISTERIAL ENQUIRY.

The enquiry into the circumstances connected with the recent fire at Messrs. Blackhead & Co.'s was resumed at the Magistrate's yesterday morning session by Mr. J. Northmann, who said:—

"Schwarkopf, recalled, said—I did not use the doors of the ground locked on the evening of the fire. I left a little early, and Mr. Hohnke went the rounds that night."

"J. Northmann, recalled, said—I did not close the side doors of the premises on the night of the fire. I closed the front doors at eight o'clock."

"Hohnke was asked if he had any doubts as to whether he had told me to lock the side doors and if he would like me to look the front doors which I did. They are double doors."

"Chas. Yow, said—I am employed at Messrs. Blackhead & Co.'s as coalie. I got the keys

from the Europeans in the store to open the east and west doors. The south door has not been opened for a long time. The east door is of iron and is opened and shut daily. The two Western doors are made of wood and iron and are opened and shut daily. Mr. Schwarzkopf and my

ing of the fire Mr. Hohneke did it. The door was hand-locked. Mr. Hohneke palmed the padlock and to see that all was right. I handed the key to one of the eastern and western doors back to Mr. Hohneke. I don't know what he did with them. I went out just before him and met down.

Angus Macaulay, P.C. 8, said—I am assistant foreman of the Fire Brigade. I remember the fire at Messrs. Blackhead & Co.'s on the 8th inst. The alarm was given at 8:15 p.m. and the Chinese said the fire was just breaking out. I hurried along and got there about four minutes later. I saw hydrants and holders along the

arrival I could see the fire was situated at the S.W. end of the godown. I could see that through the window of the godown, which had unfastened convolutions. There was a wire netting and strong lattice work of wood in front. The lattice work seemed secure and no sign of any entrance could have been made. I then returned to the

station. The place was full of smoke and there was a slight smell of burning rope. There was no other smell to attract attention. The fire seemed to be in the middle of the ground down I did not notice fire in the cock-loft. There was no fire coming out of the lantern-over the door but plenty of smoke. I speak of the westward side of the gulwau. On my return from the station I found the door on the west wall nearest to the Hotel, opened. It was shut when I first went but was open on my return.

I do not know who opened it. I did not notice if it had a padlock or not. The firemen went first to the east side, not to the west, but I saw some gentlemen opening and breaking windows in the west side before I returned to the station. One of them was working a hose through the window. It may be that one of them unlocked the door in question. I saw all the other doors opened after my return. There was one gentleman

man inside the doorway of the S.W. door
my return and he remarked to me "This is ju
the place for a horse, we'd soon have it out if
ran a horse in here." I do not know the part
man by name. The people of Meira. A black
head & Co. had not arrived then. From these
appearances I think the fire originated nea
the east door of the godown on the ground flo
The cookpot is right over the place. I imagin
it is more to the south. There were bott
(which I took to contain beer) encased in stre
A spark might set fire to the straw if it fell on
This worship again adjourned the euge
all the way to 10 a.m.

EXTRACTS FROM THE
"EWANG-PAO."
17th September.
The three notices in regard of the Weis
lottery still retain their prominent position

Leading article on the opium question, advocating the prohibition of the practice of opium smoking, the Editor assuring his readers that even in England the prohibition would meet with strong sympathy.

A turtle weighing 200 catties is carefully conveyed to the sea and set free, it being considered a meritorious not to do so, tradition saying that a turtle so released "once came to the rescue of its benefactors" when in peril of their lives from shipwreck.

A kidnapper caught in the act of endeavouring to carry off a little beggar boy. The Edouard misses an opportunity of saying that the pulchritudine would be grateful if the whole beggar community great and small was kidnapped and that it would probably be a benefit to the beggars themselves if they were so.

A priest in Kao-yao gives himself up to justice charging himself with murder and robbery. The magistrate at first thinks him mad, but persisting in his story that he had in old days

many murders, that he had afterwards turned priest to avoid the consequences, but that his friend visiting him with some \$200 about 1840, he had been unable to resist to temptation and decamped him to a quiet place where he shot and robbed him, the magistrate is at length induced to send to make enquiries and finds the body of the murdered man. The loss of the plunder.

The Provincial Judge has ordered a general jail delivery and is to-day sitting in judgment on some half-dozen noted robbers, whose names will probably be taken off shortly.

The examination in Hui-show has been postponed, as the students have not all resolved to City yet.

The Colonel stationed at Haining-shan reports

Further notice by the Welsing Lot
Farmers that they have established branch
establishments at the various centres in the
vine and that private agencies for the lot
cannot be allowed.

A leading article advocating the establishment of Degrees for proficiency in shipbuilding, engineering, gun founding, military tactics, and other branches of Foreign science to encourage progress in this direction, and pointing out that there is a precedent for the change in the introduction in the Military examinations of the use of skill in rifle shooting in place of the old and arrow practice.

Further Battery Tax Farms. The Yunnan Syndicate farm general produce brought from Kung-moon from Kiao-chow, Lee-chow,

chou. Kiang-chou, and Yang-cheung for Tls. 1,000,000, levying four mace per mil. The Lohang Kung-tai shops farms the tax on blackwood nitrate in Canton and Fatshan for \$360, levying 1 per cent. The Wanho Syndicate farms the tax on matting for packing purposes, sails, in the prefectures of Kiang-chou and Shing for Tls. 2,360, levying 2 per cent.

A puff of the Mexican emigration seems to the effect that a man recently returned from there states that the country is and the climate agreeable, resembling Francisco; that the silver mines there the richest in the world; that Ch laborers can earn as much as \$1.5 a day; that there are several thousand new there; that washermen get \$0.25 a piece there and shoemakers do even better; provisions are cheap, pork costing 13 cents and beef 8 cents; that laborers can

A thrilling story is told of a soldier being covered chained down in a boat not far from the town, who tells his rescuers that he had been snatched by some robbers in revenge for his

A Roman doctor has discovered in the skulls in the different Etruscan tombs as well as in those deposited in the various museums.

interesting specimens of ancient dentistry and artificial teeth. The skulls examined as far back as six centuries before Christ, proves that dentistry is not a modern art.

